



General Assembly

***Raised Bill No. 6780***

*January Session, 2005*

LCO No. 3919

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB06780HS\_\_\_\_\_033105\_\_\_\_\_\*

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:  
(ET)

***AN ACT CONCERNING LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 16a-41a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall submit to the joint  
4 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
5 energy planning and activities, appropriations, and human services the  
6 following on the implementation of the block grant program  
7 authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of  
8 1981, as amended:

9 (1) Not later than August first, annually, a Connecticut energy  
10 assistance program annual plan which establishes guidelines for the  
11 use of funds authorized under the Low-Income Home Energy  
12 Assistance Act of 1981, as amended, and includes the following:

13 (A) Criteria for determining which households are to receive  
14 emergency and weatherization assistance;

15 (B) A description of systems used to ensure referrals to other energy  
16 assistance programs and the taking of simultaneous applications, as  
17 required under section 16a-41;

18 (C) A description of outreach efforts; [and]

19 (D) Estimates of the total number of households eligible for  
20 assistance under the program and the number of households in which  
21 one or more elderly or physically disabled individuals eligible for  
22 assistance reside; and

23 (E) Design of a basic grant for eligible households that does not  
24 discriminate against such households based on the type of energy used  
25 for heating;

26 (2) Not later than January thirtieth, annually, a report covering the  
27 preceding months of the program year, including:

28 (A) In each community action agency geographic area and  
29 Department of Social Services region, the number of fuel assistance  
30 applications filed, approved and denied, the number of emergency  
31 assistance requests made, approved and denied and the number of  
32 households provided weatherization assistance;

33 (B) In each such area and district, the total amount of fuel,  
34 emergency and weatherization assistance, itemized by such type of  
35 assistance, and total expenditures to date; and

36 (C) For each state-wide office of each state agency administering the  
37 program, each community action agency and each Department of  
38 Social Services region, administrative expenses under the program, by  
39 line item, and an estimate of outreach expenditures; and

40 (3) Not later than November first, annually, a report covering the  
41 preceding twelve calendar months, including:

42 (A) In each community action agency geographic area and

43 Department of Social Services region, (i) seasonal totals for the  
44 categories of data submitted under subdivision (1) of this subsection,  
45 (ii) the number of households receiving fuel assistance in which elderly  
46 or physically disabled individuals reside, and (iii) the average  
47 combined benefit level of fuel, emergency and renter assistance;

48 (B) Types of weatherization assistance provided;

49 (C) Percentage of weatherization assistance provided to tenants;

50 (D) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat or total  
51 energy costs are not included in their rent receiving fuel and  
52 emergency assistance under the program by benefit level;

53 (E) The number of homeowners and tenants whose heat is included  
54 in their rent and who are receiving assistance, by benefit level; and

55 (F) The number of households receiving assistance, by energy type  
56 and total expenditures for each energy type.

57 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement a program  
58 to purchase number two home heating oil at a reduced rate for low-  
59 income households participating in the Connecticut energy assistance  
60 program and the state-appropriated fuel assistance program. Each  
61 agency administering a fuel assistance program shall submit reports,  
62 as requested by the commissioner, concerning pricing information  
63 from vendors of number two home heating oil participating in the  
64 program. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, a  
65 vendor's regular retail price per gallon of number two home heating  
66 oil, the reduced price per gallon paid by the state for the heating oil,  
67 the number of gallons delivered to the state under the program and the  
68 total savings under the program due to the purchase of number two  
69 home heating oil at a reduced rate.

<p>This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:</p>
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	16a-41a
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***ET***      *Joint Favorable C/R*      HS

***HS***      *Joint Favorable*